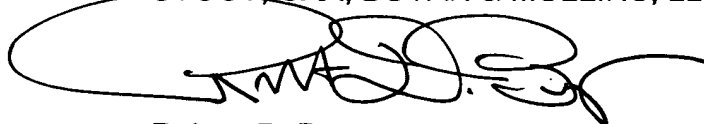


REMARKS

A majority of the above preliminary amendment inserts a Abstract. A minor amount of the above preliminary amendment corrects typographic errors and formatting of the claims. The substance of the claims has not been changed with this preliminary amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Buyan', with a large, loopy flourish extending to the left.

Robert D. Buyan
Reg. No. 32,460

Date: August 6, 2004

4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, California 92618
Telephone: 949 450-1750
Facsimile: 949 450-1764